

NOAA
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**Trans-Boundary Risk Identification
and Mitigation System**

Introductions

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TRIMS TEAM



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TRIM Stakeholders and Invited Participants

- **Governor's Division of Emergency Management**
- **International Boundary and Water Commission**
- **FEMA, Region 6 and Office of International Affairs**
- **U. S. and Mexican Consulates**
- **UT Space Science Center**
- **Texas Natural Resources Information System**
- **U.S. Department of State- Offices U. S.- Mexico Border Affairs and International Communications Policy**
- **Local and Regional Emergency Management officials**
- **EPA Border 2012**
- **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**
- **Lower Rio Grande Valley Development Council**
- **Middle Rio Grande Valley Development Council**
- **Local Jurisdictions**

TRIMS

Summary Overview Trans-Boundary Risk Identification & Mitigation System

The TRIMS project implements mitigation actions on cross-border cooperation recommended in the fourteen-county “COVER THE BORDER” (CTB) Hazardous Mitigation Plan

CTB was adopted by the sixty-four participating US cities and counties and approved by FEMA and the Governor of Texas’s Division of Emergency Management in December, 2008

A pilot program is now underway to frame a TRIMS architecture and build the capacity of local governments to adopt the System for use in cross-border alliances on disaster preparedness, emergency response and recovery

The TRIMS will be a set of tools to help “sister jurisdictions” identify and mitigate specific risks to human life, property, and economic activity from natural disasters and accidents when their likely impact extends across the international boundary

Local TRIMS “alliances” will be tailored to conform to agreements in place between the US and Mexico and well positioned to secure resources needed for their mitigation projects

A TRIMS “tool kit” will evolve to meet the continuing needs of participating communities and the agencies that serve them

TRIMS tools will help “sister jurisdictions” identify and mitigate specific risks to human life, property, and economic activity from natural disasters and accidents when their likely impact crosses the border

Goal: As soon as practicable the System will be integrated into the work of a sustainable border-based training Center or Institute for local emergency management capacity building. Specific features of TRIMS will include:

Directories: Procedures and software for compiling directories and emergency contact protocols, including one sister-city prototype

Flood Inundation Models: Training local emergency managers for using and enhancing flood inundation models and GIS

Communications Interoperability: Training and technical assistance for local officials to improve their cross-border emergency communication capacities in conformity with requirements of the US and Mexican governments

Hazard Assessment Training : Developing and testing through local workshops procedures and techniques for identifying and analyzing trans-boundary hazards

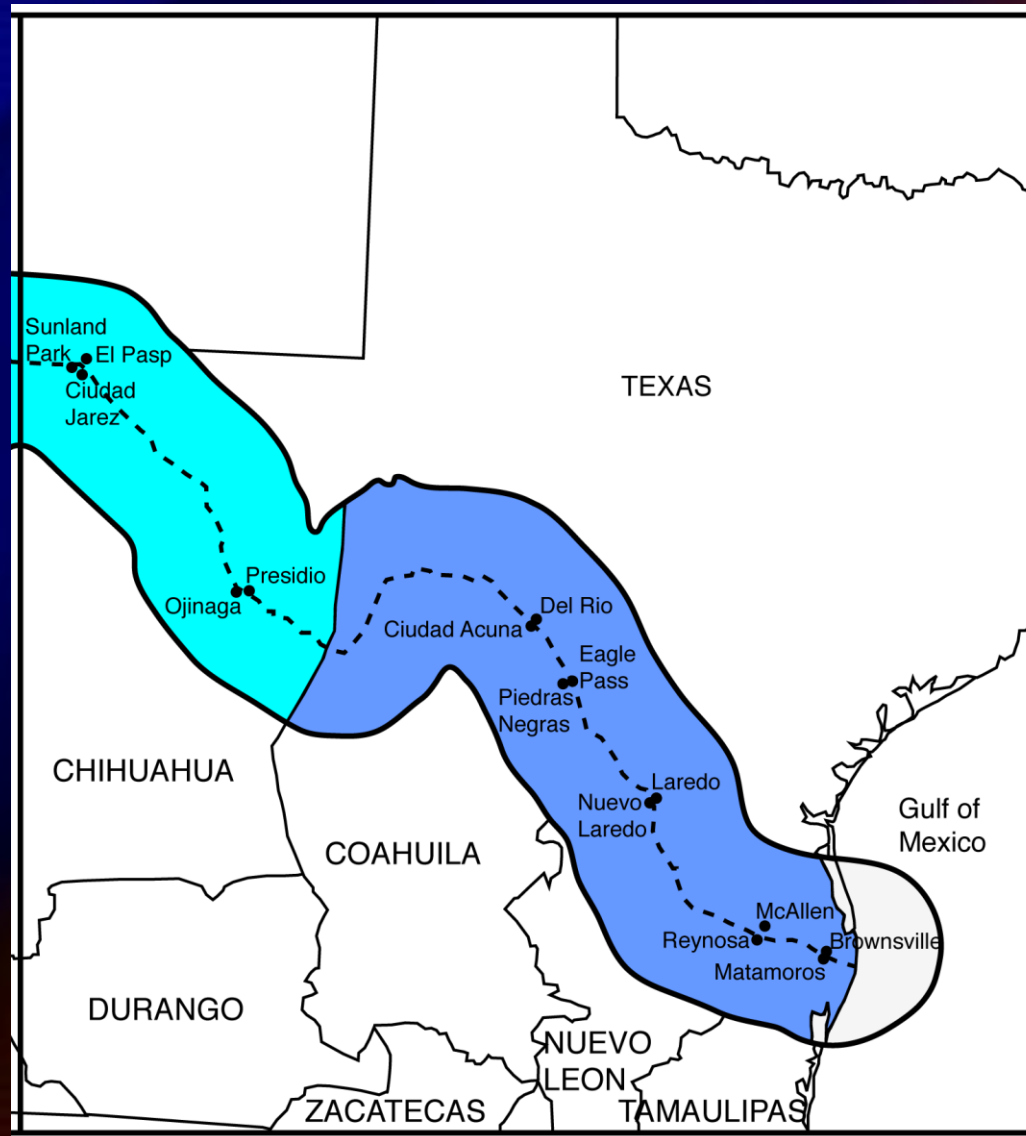
Overview

- Background
- TRIMS Planning Area
- TRIMS Team
- Vision & Purpose
- 2009-2010 Activities

Background

- TRIMS recommended by the FEMA approved “*COVER THE BORDER*” Hazard Mitigation Plan
- During the past 9 months the TRIMS Team has established important contacts with local, state, and federal agencies on both sides of the Texas/Mexico Border
- All stakeholders are committed to improving Emergency Management Cooperation through the exchange of information, analysis of risks, and improved communications
- The protection of U.S. and Mexican citizens from natural disasters and accidents along the 1,200 mile border will result in increased cooperation between the two countries
- On October 23, 2008 the Governments of the United States and Mexico entered into an Agreement to strengthen cooperation to prepare, respond, and mitigate threats from Natural disasters and accidents

TRIMS Planning Area



Hazards

Prevent hazards with direct adverse impact on lives property and natural environment across the border in either direction:

Natural Disasters

Accidents (Hazardous Materials)

Infrastructure Failures

Vision

- **Strengthen bi-national commitments between US and Mexican local and regional jurisdictions for cooperation on management of natural disasters and potentially catastrophic accidents**
- **Provide training and capacity building to local governments wishing to meet challenges for trans-boundary disaster preparedness, response and recovery; and thereby**
- **Diminish risks faced by residents of the US and Mexico border from trans-boundary hazards that can threaten their lives, property, economy and social well-being**

Purpose

- Provide training, technical assistance, and planning to participating “sister jurisdictions”
- Improve capacity to anticipate shared hazards
- Develop information and procedures for cross border evacuation contingencies
- Enhance public safety communications

PROJECT

PLAN

2009-2010



Emergency Management Training to Build Capacity

- **Initial focus on flood inundation models from the IBWC enhanced by data from other sources**
- **Will develop training tutorials focused on contiguous communities along the Texas-Mexico border**
- **Will host conferences along the Texas-Mexico border over the next year to share developed tutorials**
- **Webinars with selected tutorials will be disseminated through the project site ensuing broadest possible dissemination to potential stakeholders**
- **The ultimate goal is to increase and sustain local and regional capacity along the Texas-Mexico border aiding TXMF in its mission to save lives and property**

Trans-Boundary Emergency Management Directory

- **This electronic directory will provide contact information and emergency communications protocols for use by authorized emergency management officials in contiguous sister jurisdictions along the US-Mexico border**
- **The Directory will provide the essential contact information needed for every-day communication and information needed in real-time to maintain communications during emergencies**
- **Due to the sensitive nature of some of the information, controlling access to Directory will be a critical component**
- **The Directory will provide means for linkage to key external contacts, both hierarchical and geographical to be used in extraordinary circumstances**
- **All user information and protocols will be available in English and Spanish and constantly updated**

Emergency Communications Training

- **With concurrence from the Department of State pursuant to the United States-Mexico High Level Consultative Commission on Telecommunications (“HLCC”), TRIMS will develop a curriculum to train emergency management coordinators, public affairs officers, and support staff from border area local governments and extraterritorial jurisdictions in the procurement, maintenance, operation, and security of communications equipment. Under the HLCC efforts are currently underway in California, Arizona, and New Mexico to advance cross-border communication networks**
- **Working with GDEM and DPS, establish protocols needed to ensure effective communication between emergency management coordinators, emergency management agencies, local governments, and extra-jurisdictional entities such drainage districts**
- **The enhancement of public safety communications and protocols are designed to focus on the interoperability of cross border communications systems**
- **The communications training will improve the capacity of local governments to communicate using defined radio frequency links across jurisdictional lines to exchange critical information in times of natural disasters, accidents, and emergencies**

Local Government

Hazard Assessment Workshops

- **TRIMS will sponsor workshops between local jurisdictions along the U.S. Mexico border focused on improving their capacity to identify and mitigate risks to human life, property, and economic activity from natural disasters and accidents that impact both sides of the international boundary**
- **The local governments will be encouraged to prioritize those risks that have potential impact on both sides of the border**
- **The identification of these risks are designed to create mitigation projects**

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?



Sanderson, TX
USGS archives